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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2724	9

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *Mar 16, 1999*   .

☒ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire _____3_____ month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) *1-7* _____ is/are pending in the application.

    Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) *1-7* _____ is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

    ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

        ☐ received.

        ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____ .

        ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    *Certified copies not received: _____ .

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

— SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES —

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

2.   (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use
or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3.   Claims 1,3, 6, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tai.

In regard to claim 1, Tai has disclosed a system for processing object oriented image data

(e.g. the text object described in the abstract).

The system has a circuit (#50 of fig.1) to parse an image into black, white and grey image

data (neutral image data) and other non-black, non-white and non-grey image data (non-neutral

image data) by assigning a "L*,a*,b*" value to each of the different image data.

The system has another circuit (#70 of fig.1) to identify those neutral image data into

black image data, grey image data, and white image data (see fig.2) and passes those data into a

color correction circuit (#80 of fig.1) for further processing.

In regard to claim 3, Tai's color correction (processing) circuit (#80 of fig.1) processes

the black, grey, and white image data according to a look up table (see column 3, line 66) which

is a feather set.

In regard to claim 6 , Tai has shown us a system for processing object oriented image

data that has a parsing mean (#50 of fig.1) for parsing the object oriented image data into non-

neutral image data and neutral image data. Tai further teaches the use of circuits/neutral

rendering transforming means (#70 and #80 of fig.1) to transforms a color and color space of the

neutral image data. Tai also shows a image processing mean (#90 of fig. 1) for processing the

transformed neutral image data and the parsed non-neutral image data (see column 4 line 5-20).

In regard to claim 7, Tai teaches the use of a circuit/neutral parsing mean (#70 of fig.1) to

parse the neutral image data into black image data, grey image data, and white image data. Tai

also shows us a circuit/neutral image processing mean (#80 of fig.1) to process the black image

data, the white image data, and the grey image data.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

5.   Claims 2, 4, 5, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tai

In regard to claim 2, Tai discloses a processing circuit (#80 of fig. 1) which is functioning

as a black processing circuit when it is processing a black image data, a grey processing circuit

when it is processing a grey image data, and a white processing circuit when it is processing a

white image data. Even Tai has not shown three separated circuit, his processing circuit is functioning just as those three processing circuit mentioned in claim 2. It is obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to modify Tai's invention and give it a three separate circuits because three circuits can process the three different image data at the same time instead of one at a time and increase process efficiency.

In regard to claim 4 and 5, Tai has disclosed a system capable of performing steps a, b, c and especially process step c according to a selected feature set as previously discussed. Tai's system also has a circuit (#90 of fig 1) that can further processes the processed black, white and grey image data as well as the non-neutral image data.(see column 4, line 5-20). Because Tai has shown us a system that can perform all the steps in claim 4 and 5, it is obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art to see that this is equivalent of showing us a method of performing those steps.

6.   Remarks: Applicant's argument that circuit 50 is for color transformation and color transformation is not parsing has been considered. In reply, I agree that color transformation is not parsing, but the process of separating an image data into neutral image data and non-neutral image data is parsing. Tai clearly shows an image data pass through circuit 50 and circuit 50 transform that image data into Lab values. That transformation itself is not parsing. But because of that color transformation, now that image data has the Lab values which represent black, grey, white, and other non-grey, non-white and non-black data which are neutral and non-neutral

image data. That transformation separates image data into neutral and non-neutral image data is parsing.

Applicants second argument that Tai teaches a black text dectection and color fringe suppression circuit which process all data and Tai fail to teach anywhere in the reference that this circuit parses the neutral data into three separate groups as claimed. In reply, applicant only claims to parse the neutral image data (grey, white and black) into black data, white data, and grey data. Applicant never said to put all the data in three different group. The color transformation circuit clearly showing the seperation of image data which includes neutral image data into black data, white data and grey data by their Lab values.

7.   ACTION IS FINAL

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTHS shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event , however,

will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this

final action.

Conclusion

8.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner

should be directed to King Y. Poon whose telephone number is (703) 305-0892 or to Supervisor

Mr. David Moore whose phone number is (703) 308-7452.

May 7, 1999

DAVID K. MOORE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
GROUP 2700